

NPIC/D-598-73

13 DEC 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Defense Intelligence Agency
Deputy Director for Intelligence, CIA
Acting Director of Intelligence and Research, Department
of State
Director, National Security Agency

SUBJECT : Requirements for Video Communications Among Intelligence
Agencies

1. Various components in the intelligence community are investigating a variety of devices and systems by which intelligence personnel could exchange and discuss visual presentations of photography and other intelligence information through "real time" signal transmissions. The National Photographic Interpretation Center has a leading interest in such systems for the purpose of providing its customers with timely services appropriate to the capabilities of future imagery collection systems.

2. I have concluded that -- as a service to common needs -- the Center should take the lead in developing, with participation from relevant intelligence agencies, valid requirements for a system which would satisfy the need for such communications between NPIC and the agencies it supports, and between the agencies themselves. The Office of Development and Engineering of CIA's Science and Technology Directorate has agreed to undertake the translation of the requirements into a program proposal which that office would fund if approvals are given.

3. I request the cooperation and the participation of your organization in the development of the requirements. I suggest that you designate a person who would be a point of contact with your organization and who would work with the responsible NPIC officer, who is [redacted] We intend to begin work promptly on this requirements study and to complete it early in 1974. The results will be made available to all participating agencies.

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4. The Information Handling Committee of USIB is actively interested in and is monitoring the development of knowledge and policies about visual information exchange systems. I am sending the Committee Chairman, Mr. Nate Pitts, a copy of this memo and we shall maintain contact with the Committee as we develop the study.

5. For convenience in communicating we have named this effort "INVIDEX" -- standing for intelligence video exchange.

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JOHN J. HICKS
Director

National Photographic Interpretation Center

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